MORTIMER JOHNSON'S DEATH.

THE BALTIMORE POLICE SAY IT WAS A MURDER. .

Young Man's Father and a Woman Friend of the Father Say Suicide-Brother and Sister Say It Was Murder Shot With Revolvers of Varying Calibre.

BALTIMORE, July 4 .- The Baltimore police are wrestling with one of the most mysterlous shooting cases that have ever been brought to public notice in this city. On the morning of Wednesday, June 24, the dead body of J. Mortimer Johnson, owner of a prosperous business, and son of former city Councilman Joseph G. Johnson, a wealthy property owner, was found lying on the floor of his bedroom, in the third story of his father's home, 1430 Hollins street. Charles Sheeler, man-of-all-work about the Johnson home, made the dis-Covery, and his alarm caused an investigation by detectives and a Coroner's jury, which has developed nothing to decide whether the young man committed suicide

or was murdered. When found the body was fully dressed in a suit of fashionable clothing young Johnson usually wore. Two bullet holes

were found in his head. In the Johnson family, which has long been known in southwest Baltimore for the political prominence and charitable acts of the head of the house, Joseph G. Johnson, there is a wide difference of opinion as to the manner of Mortimer's death. Dr. Ladv Durrett of Fairmont, W. Va., who was the first woman to graduate in medicine in Baltimore, is a sister of J. Mortimer Johnson. She has been in this city since the day after the tragedy and investigations instituted by her caused her to exclaim positively before the Coroner's jury last

Wednesday: "My brother was murdered. No one except a woman had a motive to put him out of the way. My brother never took his own life. He loved me too much and would have thought of the consequences upon

Walter Johnson, a cartoonist of New York city, who recently returned from Paris, is a brother of the dead man. Like his sister, Mrs. Durrett, he believes that his brother was murdered. Before the jury of inquest Walter Johnson said:

"My brother did not commit suicide any more than I am a dead man sitting in this chair. A woman, a woman can tell something of this case.'

Friends and relatives of Mortimer Johnson have been examined by the dozen and of them all the only ones who think young Johnson committed suicide are his father, Joseph G. Johnson, and Mrs. Susan Suter, wife of William Suter, a hatter, who lives at 1638 West Baltimore street.

Mr. Johnson told the jury that his son long ago remarked to him that if he ever got into any deep trouble he would end his life. Not a witness appeared who was willing to say that young Johnson was in trouble of any kind. Only the night before his death he called on J. P. Bigham an intimate friend, and together they planned an outing for the following Satur-

Mrs. Susan Suter has been a friend of the elder Mr. Johnson for several years. She said to the jury in giving her idea of the

"It must be suicide. It can't be murder." Mrs. Suter told the jury that J. G. Johnson visited her home on the evening preceding the finding of the body and that he left at 10:30 o'clock. She was positive of this because she looked at a clock in her dining room as Mr. Johnson left. Mr. Johnson swore he was home at 10 o'clock. Both Mr. Johnson and Mrs. Suter were recalled by the jury, but adhered to their original statements. When the body was first discovered the police thought it a case of suicide of an unusual character, because the young man had been shot by two pistols-of .32 and .38 calibre.

The Coroner and the detectives found the door of Mortimer's room locked when they first entered the house. Their passageway through the house was barred by Mrs. Suter, who said she was acting under orders from J. G. Johnson. The officers of the law pushed the woman aside, and of the law pushed the women after Charles Sheeler, the man-of-all-work, produced the key to the room they entered. Face downward the body lay surrounded by a pool of blood. A .32-calibre revolver, owned by Mortimer, lay about two feet away from the body. Another weapon of J. S. calibre, which was later identified by J. G. Johnson as belonging to him, was under the body.

I would not trust her behind me.' Mr. J. G. Johnson once told me to treat Mrs. Suter right or she might knock me down and I might not know what had hurt me."

During the inquest Mrs. Suter appeared buring the inquest Mrs. Suter appeared buring the inquest Mrs. Suter appeared buring the inquest Mrs. She was al-

ander the body.

The Coroner and detectives were puzzled at the aspect of the case confronting them. The theory of accidental death was quickly put out of mind when the investigating party concluded that a man could hardly be handling two pistols and happen to shoot himself in the head with both.

Robbery had not been the metics be Robbery had not been the motive, be

cause the young man's three-stone diamond ring, valued at \$500, was found on his finger, his diamond stud was in his shirt front and a roll of money was in his pocket. Of a happy disposition, with friends by the the inventor of a scouring compound and known all over that part of the city for his kind acts, especially to the poor, Coroner Jones came to the conclusion that Mortimer had not committed suicide.

The detectives would not express an opinion, but for six days they were busy they were busy they were busy that they were busy that they were busy they were busy they were they were they were busy they were d and known all over that part of the

running down rumors and clues. A jury of inquest failed, after three sittings, to fasten the crime on anyone, and could not determine that the young man committed suicide. Charles Sheeler, the man-of-all-work, who has been employed in the Johnson home for several years, told the jury that he whistled for Mortimer, as was his custom, to come to breakfast on the morning of June 23. He did not get a response and went to Mortimer's room to look for him, and failed to see the body because, as he explained, he only glanced inside hurriedly. Sheeler told the jury he returned to the kitchen, but felt unsettled regarding the return and returned to the head. to the kitchen, but felt unsettled regarding the young man and returned to the bed-room, where he discovered the body. He notified Mr. Johnson, the elder, who im-mediately sent him for Dr. Wilbur Stubbs,

and later sent him for Mrs. Susan Suter.

Until the arrival of Mortimer's sister,
Mrs. Durrett, from Fairmont, W. Va.,
Mrs. Suter was in charge of the Johnson
home. Sheeler declared to the jury that
he heard no pistol shots in the house during he heard no pistol shots in the house during the night preceding the discovery of the body although he slept on the same floor with Mortimer. At Police Headquarters Sheeler was "sweated" by Marshal of Police Farnan and Captain of Detectives Pur-phrey. He was put through the "third degree" in all its searching inquiries. Sheeler clung tenaciously to his original statement, about finding the body. He Sheeler clung tenaciously to his original statement about finding the body. He told the police that he knew of no reason why Mortimer should commit suicide. Joseph G. Johnson said that he believed his son had committed suicide. He said there was a strain of insanity in the family and the family mother's side. He failed

there was a strain of insanity in the family on Mortimer's mother's side. He failed, however, to convince the jury that his son had committed suicide.

Miss Viola Stambaugh, sister of W. B. Stambaugh, of New York city, who is a cousin of the Johnson's, was an important witness before the Coroner's jury. She is a trained nurse and came here from Fairmont, W. Va., to testify. Miss Stambaugh was a member of the Johnson household for six years. Assistant State's Attorney O'Dunne questioned her at length regarding Mrs. Suter's visits to J. G. Johnson and also about quarrels alleged to have occurred between Mortimer and Mrs.

What do you know of Mrs. Suter's visits what do you know of Mrs. Sucres visits to the house?" asked Mr. O'Dunne.
"I first saw her a few weeks before Lady Durrett was married, in 1895. She came one evening and Uncle Joe [J. G. Johnson] was her at the door. Lady Durrett said

Our Great Semi-Annual Remnant Sale!

For \$15 this year there is more value than we've ever had fortune to give at any previous remnant sale. Half the Spring season was washed away by rainy days, leaving us a larger stock of woollens than July has ever found us with! These goods must give way to our big Fall imports, which are already at the Custom House. 'Tisn't a time to quibble over losses and profits—we've halved cost on half our goods. There isn't a pattern in the sale that has a right to be made up for less than \$20. Just as many are \$30 and \$40 qualities. We'll fashion suits in just the same way that we've made them all the season, and the most and the least you can pay is \$15. We'll make coat and vest for \$11, or trousers \$4.

ARNHEIM

Broadway and 9th St.

Six Months' Advertising

DURING the first half of the present year THE SUN. DAILY. SUNDAY and EVENING, carried 3,388,113 agate lines of advertising. This is an increase over the first six months of 1902 of 852.187 lines, over 2.840 columns, a gain in excess of 321/2%.

THE SUN (Daily and Sunday) during this period carried 2.019,264 lines, an increase of 346,805 lines. or 1.156 columns.

THE EVENING SUN during the same six months had 1.368.849 lines. an increase of 505.382 lines, over 1.684 columns.

to me, 'That woman has come to take Papa

What else did Mrs. Durrett say about Mrs. Suter? "She said, 'That woman will ruin father.'
"Did Mrs. Sutter call often after this?"
"Yes, often."

"Did Mr. Johnson and Mrs. Suter eve have drinks together?"

"Yes."
"Did Mr. Johnson ever strike you?"

ways calm. On each occasion she said that she and Mortimer were always on good terms. Several witnesses testified

that Mortimer never went near Mrs. Suter when she was in the Johnson house. Walter Johnson, the brother of Mortimer, Walter Johnson, the brother of Mortiner, was deeply impressed with the importance of the deliberations of the jury, and did not hesitate freely to express his belief that the young man had been murdered. "I know," he told the jury, "that my brother only remained in Baltimore to keep a woman away from our home; otherwise woman away from our home; otherwise he would have been in New York in busi-

ness with me. I think he was a stumbling block in some one's way." Detectives Atkinson, Brennan and O'Donnell, who worked on the case, all believe Mortimer was murdered. They developed an important point in regard to the pistols with which young Johnson is supposed to have been killed. It was ascertained that the .38-calibre revolver was not in working order. The cylinder would not revolve unless it was turned with the fingers, and it only exploded a cartridge after repeated efforts. A ball from this pistol

is supposed to have entered the right side of Mortimer's head.

When the condition of the wespon was learned the detectives shook their heads, and the average of the state of revolver fired when Mortimer was killed?

The verdict of the jury was:
"J. Mortimer Johnson came to his death from two bullet wounds shot into his head from two pistols of different calibre—.32 and .38—by the hand of some person or persons unknown to the jury, which took place between 8 P. M., June 23, and 8 A. M., June 24, 1903, at 430 Hollins street. We further believe that the evidence is not

sufficient to say suicide, and it might be murder." When the verdict was made known to Mrs. Durrett, the sister, she said:
"This does not alter my opinion. I still believe Mortimer was murdered. If I felt that any one has been unjustly suspected I would go to them and say so."

WOMAN FATALLY BURNED. Was Burning Som e Waste Paper When Her Clothing Caught Fire.

While Emma O'Reilly of 320 South Third street, Williamsburg, was lighting a pile of waste paper in the yard of her home yesterday, her garments caught fire. She ran screaming into the house and some women who tried to assist her were severely burned.

Miss O'Reilly, a pillar of fire, ran to the

street, where some men wrapped their coats around her and smothered the blaze, but not before she had been shockingly burned. She was taken, in a dying condition, to the Eastern District Hospital. Girl Four Years Old Killed by Acid. Four-year-old Jennie Annee of 217 York treet, Brooklyn, was killed by taking carbolic acid yesterday. Her mother had left

DEAN HOFFMAN LEFT \$6,500,000

ESTATE WAS OVERESTIMATED WHEN HE DIED.

\$1,600,000 Out on Bond and Mortgage -A Collection of Glit-Edged Securitles-Some \$4,000,000 in Real Estate.

The appraisal of the estate of Dean Eugene Augustus Hoffman, who died at Rouse s Point, N. Y., on June 17, 1902, shows that the estimates of its value, formed at the time of his death, were rather extravagant. It was believed then that Dean Hoffman was worth more than \$10,000,000, but the appraisers report that he possessed but \$2,663,442 in personalty, and that his real estate holdings were assessed by the city at about \$2,750,000. Allowing for the underassessment that is usually made, it is not believed that the entire estate will amount

to \$6,500,000 in round numbers. His personal estate included the following

blocks of securities. 50 Shares in American Ex. National Bank.

In addition Dean Hoffman had \$1,600,000 invested in bonds and mortgages, and had eash on hand amounting to \$23,066. His personal effects, including bric-à-brac, silverware, jewelry, &c., are valued at \$12,500. The gross personalty aggregates \$2,663,442, but the necessary deductions for debts and commissions reduce this sum to \$2,521,347 net

The real estate is about twenty parcels. which were assessed by the city at \$2,750,000.

They include property on Fifth avenue worth \$1,000,000. When these assessments were prepared, however, it was not the practice to assess property at its full value. as Mayor Low proposes shall be done in the future. Therefore a considerable sum. possibly almost a million dollars, must be added to this valuation in order that the real value of the property may be arrived at. Under Dean Hoffman's will the bulk of his fortune went to his wife and children. The widow, Mrs. Mary Crooke Hoffman. receives an annual income of \$75,000 from the estate, and at her death the residuary estate, after the payment of certain charitable and benevolent legacies, is to be divided among the children. These are S. V. Hoffman of Morristown, N. J., Susan Matilda Watson, Mary Louise Nickerson and Margaret Euphemia Hackstaff. The children receive, during their mother's life, the excess income of the estate after the

payment of her annuity. The charitable bequests included one of \$100,000 to the General Theological Seminary of the Protestant Episcopal Church, \$50,000 each to the Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society and the New York Historical Society, \$25,000 each to the New York Protestant Episcopal School and to the Fund for the Relief of Widows and Orphans of Deceased Clergymen of the Orphans of Deceased Clergymen of the Protestant Episcopal Church, and \$10,000 to the Clergymen's Retiring Fund Society. Dr. Hoffman was dean of the General Theological Seminary of the Protestant Episcopal Church. The executors under his will are S. V. Hoffman, his son; W. H. a bottle containing the pison on the kitchen table and during hands absence the child drank its contents.

his will are S. V. Hoffman, his son; W. H. Harris and the Farmers' Loan and Trust Company. All prepaid purchases of \$5.00 and over will be delivered free at your nearest railroad Station in the States of Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island. Vermont, Connecticut, New York, Pennsylvania and New Jersey. Cartage from Railroad Station to your house is not included in this offer

.25 1.50 Colored Dress Goods 69°

This Remarkable bargain offering includes 3,600 yards of desirable Summer Dress Stuffs, all of which have been marked down, as indicated above, for the purpose of effecting a prompt disposal. The fabrics comprise plain and novelty FRENCH VOILES, silk and wool CREPE DE PARIS, Imported ETAMINE, silk warp HENRIETTA, silk and wool ETAMINE, Embroidered VOILE, CANVAS SUITING, SATIN COVERT, &c., &c.

MOHAIR BRILLIANTINE, 45 inches | 43-inch Black All Wool VOILE, 51-inch Black All Wool CHEVIOT, | CRASH SUITING — all wool — 50 wide, very bright and lustrous, in navy | 45-inch Black All Wool NUN'S VEILING, 46-inch Black All Wool inches wide, in stylish mixtures of gray,

Summer Silks at Reduced Prices!

This is a most important Closing Out Sale of Summer Silks—a bargain event in which every woman who reads will be interested. A quick disposal of all odd lines and broken assortments must be made. We have not hesitated at the exceeding depth of the price cuts, for our sole purpose is to sell, and sell in mighty short order. These values emphasize the fact that WE SELL SILKS CHEAPER—QUALITY FOR QUALITY — THAN ANYWHERE ELSE IN GREATER NEW YORK.

THREE RECORD PRICES IN BLACK TAFFETAS! Strong, well finished and "absolutely guaranteed to wear" qualities are included in these special offerings. Three of the most desirable widths at bargain prices are:—

A regular 75c. quality, 23 inches wide, at, per yard... 59c A regular 85c. quality, 27 inches wide, at, per yard... 69c A regular \$1.19 quality, 36 inches wide, at, per yard... 95c

PONGEE AND HABUTAI SILKS, cool, lightweight summer silks, particularly desirable and now in great demand for summer suits and waists, at exceptionally low prices.

ack 45c | 19-inch American PONGEE 39c | 24-inch American PONGEE 59c | 36-inch White Japanese 59c | CREPE DE CHINE, POLKA DOT SATIN LIBERTY AND GUN METAL STRIPE AND CHECK TAFFETA SILKS, all of these are regular 75c. qualities, at, per yard, 27-inch white and black HABUTAI SILK, per yd...

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Delicious Creams, including Mousse Cafe, with whipped cream; Frappes and Sundays served with fresh fruit; Nesselrode Pudding, Bisque Tortoni, Tuitti Fruitti, Bisque Glace, Neapolitan and Fruit fees, also French and, American Ice Cream in all flavors, strictly pure, made of the best ingredients the market supplies, served at tables in the candy department at, per portion.

High Grade Smyrna Rugs!

These are beautiful and durable Rugs. They show artistic Oriental and floral patterns, also two toned red and green effects. They are perfect in weave and texture. At these prices they are undoubted values. Sizes 6x9 ft.; worth 10.25 | Size 7.6 ft x. 10.6 15.50 | Size 9x12 ft.; worth 20.50 HIGH GRADE LINEN SPANGLE, LAWN AND PONGEE

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